



NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF  
ULSTER COUNTY COMPTROLLER  
**ELLIOTT AUERBACH**

ELLIOTT AUERBACH  
COUNTY COMPTROLLER  
244 FAIR STREET  
KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12401

PHONE: 845: 340-3529  
eaue@co.ulster.ny.us  
[www.co.ulster.ny.us/resources/comptroller](http://www.co.ulster.ny.us/resources/comptroller)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**THE \$24 MILLION INSURANCE BILL**  
**Positive Changes Await County Self-Insurance**

KINGSTON, NY (July 22, 2014)....Upon completion of a Health Benefit Dependent Eligibility Audit, Ulster County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach provided a call to action for the Legislature and Administration with recommendations to safeguard a multi-million dollar county expense.

The Report summarizes an audit by Auerbach's Office which sought to verify the eligibility of employee dependents. All Ulster County employees are eligible for health care coverage. Employee dependents, however, are only eligible if they meet certain criteria.

The Comptroller's report highlighted the importance of the issue by citing several major factors:

- 1) Ulster County spent \$24.7 Million on healthcare benefits in 2013
- 2) Ulster County covers over 4000 enrollees
- 3) Ulster County's cost per participant ranges from \$662-\$2492 each
- 4) Ulster County lacks adequate procedures to document dependent eligibility

The Comptroller's recommendations call for a collaborative effort that includes:

- 1) An annual verification of dependent records
- 2) An update of current records
- 3) Legislative policy as to verification requirements and corresponding standards of operating procedures adopted by the Administration

The audit and report can be found on the Comptroller's website at [youreyesonulster.com](http://youreyesonulster.com)

###

*The mission of the Ulster County Comptroller's Office is to serve as an independent agency of the people and to protect the public interest by monitoring County government and to assess and report on the degree to which its operation is economical, efficient and its financial condition sound.*